

COLLECTION DEVELOPMENT POLICY STATEMENT

CLASSIFICATION: QB (ASTRONOMY)

JULY 1999

General Purpose: To support the undergraduate curriculum for an academic major in Physics, Astronautical Engineering, and Aerospace Sciences (interdisciplinary major). To support the airmanship program, and to support the observatory and planetarium activities.

Collection Level Intensity: General support.

Geographical Areas: No limitations.

Chronological Periods: No limitations.

Types of Material Collected: Monographs, serials, encyclopedias, dictionaries, some additional texts, handbooks, yearbooks, star atlases, indexes and abstracts, conferences and congresses, proceedings, bibliographies, and almanacs. Electronic sources include online databases, CD-ROMs, and evaluated Internet web sites.

Types of Material Excluded: Audiovisual materials.

Other Factors: As an interdisciplinary subject, courses are taught by the Commandant of Cadets/Military Training Division to train cadets to navigate. Advanced courses are taught by the Physics Department.

Subjects and Collection Levels: Collect basic navigational materials for the practical application in the flying program, as well as current research topics, such as those taught in the Physics Department.

Major subject areas are:

- Practical Astronomy (QB 140-237),
- Theoretical Astronomy and Celestial Mechanics (QB 349-421)
- Astrophysics (QB 460-465)
- Descriptive Astronomy and the Solar System (which includes planets, comets, stars, and black holes) (QB 500-991)
- Astronomical Instruments (QB 85-139).

Materials are ordered from reviewing journals such as Choice, reviews from magazines such as Sky and Telescope, and from recommendations from the Physics Department and the Military Training Division.

The majority of the materials collected will be in English, with some atlases and standard references in foreign languages (especially German and French).

Weeding Criteria: Historical materials will be retained. Outdated supplementary texts can be withdrawn.

Last updated by Robert Humes, Subject Specialist